



State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor

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**GOV. EASLEY PROCLAIMS FEBRUARY AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley has proclaimed February as Black History Month and urges citizens to celebrate and acknowledge the contributions African Americans have made to the cultural heritage of North Carolina. Educational opportunities are planned for museums and historic sites across the state during the month of February.

“African Americans have played a key role in the development of our state, and Black History Month is an appropriate time to recognize these contributions,” Easley said. “I hope all citizens will join me in honoring and celebrating this important part of our heritage during February.”

The N.C. Department of Cultural Resources has scheduled a number of events and programs throughout the month of February. Highlights include:

- N.C. Museum of History: 3:00-4:00 p.m. Saturday, February 10  
North Carolina-based editor William L. Andrews will discuss North Carolinians’ vast contributions to African American literature in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. A book signing will follow.
- N.C. Museum of Art: 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Saturday, February 10  
Anansi the Spider spins entertaining stories with his West African folk-tale friends for children of all ages as part of African Trickster Tales.
- Tryon Palace: 7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 15  
Speaker Sandi Ruger will discuss “And I Still Rise,” a collection of African American renaissance poetry and spirituals. The popular choir poem depicts a range of personal experiences – celebrating the universal joy of survival and triumph of the human spirit over adversity.
- N.C. Transportation Museum: Saturday, February 17  
Members of the Goldsboro chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen will talk about their experiences flying as part of an all African-American fighter squadron during World War II.

For more information about Black History Month events sponsored by the Department of Cultural Resources, visit [www.ncculture.com](http://www.ncculture.com).

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